

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement sheets of drawings includes changes to Figs. 1A-1B and 2-4 and replaces the original sheet including Figs. 1A-1B and 2-4.

In Figs. 1A-1B and 2-4, the header to the replacement sheet has been corrected from "REPLACEMENT SHEET" to "REPLACEMENT SHEETS." The content of the drawings themselves are unchanged..

Attachments following last page of this Amendment:

Replacement Sheet (4 pages)

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated May 25, 2010, claims 1-6 and 8-18 are being amended and claim 7 is being cancelled. Support for the amendments is found throughout the specification, for example, at FIGS. 1A, 1B, and 2, and at page 3, line 6 to page 8, line 11. No new subject matter has been added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending claims in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

Amendment to Title

The Office Action (at page 2) indicated that the title was not descriptive. Applicant is not conceding that the title was deficient, but in the interest of advancing prosecution the title has been amended to "GRAPHICAL INTERFACE FOR GENERATING AND PREVIEWING A RULE."

Amendment to Abstract

The Office Action (at page 2) indicated that the abstract was not in proper form. Applicant is not conceding that the abstract was deficient, but in the interest of advancing prosecution the abstract has been amended to "A computer-readable medium . . .," per the suggestion in the Office Action (at page 2).

Amendments to the Drawings

The Office Action (at page 2) objected to the drawings because the replacement sheets submitted on March 1, 2004 were each marked "REPLACEMENT SHEET." The attached replacement sheets state "REPLACEMENT SHEETS." The content of the drawings themselves remain unchanged. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

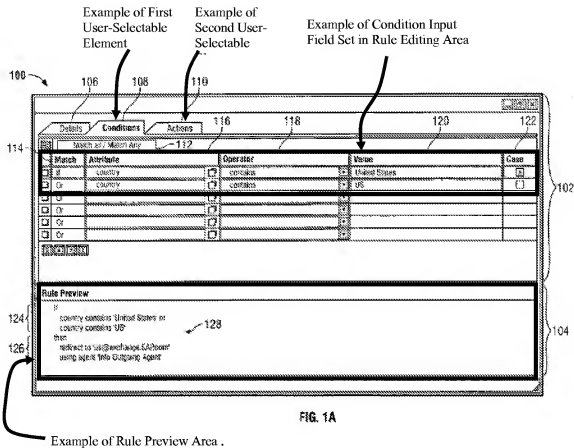
Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Office Action (at pages 3-4) rejected independent claims 1, 15, 17, and 18, and particular dependent claims, under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The rejections are moot as the claims have been amended, but Applicant is not conceding that the rejections had merit. In particular, independent claim 1 has been amended to recite a “computer-readable memory.” Independent claim 15 has been amended to recite “A computer-implemented for providing a graphical user interface.” Independent claim 17 has been amended to recite a “computer-readable memory.” Independent system claim 18 has been amended to recite “one or more processors; and computer-readable memory having computer-executable instructions contained therein for performing a method” Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

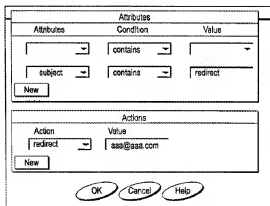
Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action (at page 5) rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Shaw et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,282,565). The rejections are moot as the independent claims are being amended, but Applicant is not conceding that the rejections had merit. Applicant respectfully submits that Shaw fails to disclose each and every element of pending claims 1-6 and 8-18.

Independent claim 1 recites a computer-readable memory that contains instructions for generating a graphical user interface (GUI) for creating or revising a rule that contains multiple conditions and an action that is to be taken when the conditions are satisfied. An example implementation of the GUI is provided in FIG. 1A of the present application (shown below with annotations).



First, regarding independent claim 1, Shaw fails to disclose a GUI that includes a rule editing area that is configured to display “a condition input field set for accepting a first user specification of . . . a choice between an ‘and’ logical operator and an ‘or’ logical operator for logically connecting two or more of the conditions.” Rather, Shaw discloses a GUI in FIG. 2A (shown to right) that does not include an input field for accepting user specification between an “and” logical operator and an “or” logical operator for connecting two or more conditions. (See Shaw, at FIG. 2A, and at col. 4, lines 39-67.)



Second, regarding independent claim 1, Shaw fails to disclose a GUI that includes **“a rule preview area configured to provide . . . a display of a user-understandable representation of the rule . . . the user-understandable representation including at least the user-specified attribute name and attribute value for each of the conditions after the first user specification, and including at least the user-specified action name and action value for the action after the second user specification.”** Rather, Shaw discloses a GUI that includes “drop-down menus” and “value fields” for creating mail receiver rules, but does not also disclose a rule preview area that includes a user-understandable representation of the rule that is created using the drop-down menus and value fields. (See Shaw, at FIG. 2A, and at col. 4, lines 39-67.)

Third, regarding independent claim 1, Shaw fails to disclose a GUI that includes first and second user-selectable elements and a rule editing area, where the rule editing area is configured to **“(i) display, upon user selection of the first element, a condition input field set . . . , and (ii) display, upon user selection of the second element, an action input field set . . . and wherein the condition input field set and the action input field set are not displayed concurrently with each other.”** Rather, Shaw's GUI displays the pull-down menus and value fields for the creating attributes concurrently with the pull-down menus and value fields for creating the actions. (See Shaw, at FIG. 2A, and at col. 4, lines 39-67.)

Applicant respectfully requests, that should the Office present another prior art rejection, the Office explicitly identify the following recited features in the prior art:

- “first and second user-selectable elements;”
- input field for accepting a user specification of “a choice between an ‘and’ logical operator and an ‘or’ logical operator;” and
- “user-understandable representation of the rule.”

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that Shaw fails to disclose each and every element of independent claim 1. Independent claims 15, 16, 17, and 18 recite language that is similar to that in claim 1 discussed above, and are

patentable for at least the same reasons. Dependent claims 2-6 and 8-14 are patentable for at least the same reasons as independent claim 1, and for the independently patentable features therein.

Conclusions

Claims 1-6 and 8-18, as amended, appear to be in form for allowance. As such, Applicant requests that the Examiner allow claims 1-6 and 8-18.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 20, 2010

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